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SIMPLE HINTS ON HORSE MANAGEMENT.

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BY
H. de V. G.

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FOREWORD BY THE AUTHOR.

I have been tempted to write these few pages, in the hope that by so doing I may not only help those who are honest enough to admit that they do not know much about the proper way to look after a horse, *but also* the horse himself. To a lover of horses there is nothing so harrowing as to see a poor brute, who is unable to ask for what he wants, looking un-groomed, and under-fed. It literally Hurts.

A man who loves his horse, and looks after him, soon finds he has NOT a living MACHINE in his stable, but a living PAL. The horse, like the elephant and dog, is a most intelligent animal. He never forgets bad treatment and always responds to good.

I have tried to write this little book in the simplest of language, eliminating all technical terms and I think and hope it may prove itself useful to the men it's written for, *i. e.*, the Southern Indian Planter.

These lines might well be committed to memory, and are said to be composed by an old-time trainer at Chantilly.

"A man of kindness to his horse is kind,
But brutal actions show a brutal mind:
Remember He that made the brute,
That gave thee speech and reason, formed him mute,
He can't complain, but God's all-seeing eye
Beholds thy cruelty, He hears his cry;
He was designed thy servant, not thy drudge
And know that his Creator is thy judge".

"THE HORSE".

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SIMPLE HINTS ON HORSE MANAGEMENT.

STABLE MANAGEMENT.

First let us take the matter of how to look after him in the Stable. Every owner should make it his business to go and see his horse first thing in the morning, or directly he comes in from Muster, and before he thinks of sitting down to his own breakfast. When he gets to the stable, look and see that the horse-keeper has removed the bedding, and cleaned out the loose box; all grass left over from the evening before, should be thrown away.

Next enquire into the matter of your animal's morning feed, what has he had? or going to have? *You* are going back to bacon and eggs, toast, marmalade and butter, at least you expect to, and if you don't get it, there'll be trouble for Somebody. RIGHT, remember your horse also likes a good breakfast, BUT cannot ask for what he wants, so it's up to You to see he gets it. A good meal for the start of the day, is Boiled Gram, Wheat Bran, and Salt; Don't forget the latter, as without it the food is very tasteless.

Whilst your horse is having his grub, DON'T let the syce touch him, wait till he's finished before starting to groom.

Oh! by the way, as soon as your syce has removed the bedding, and swept the floor clean, and before he gives your horse his food, make him clean out his feet, and get them thoroughly dry; This is very important if you want to keep your horse fit.

GROOMING.

Your grooming kit should consist of a Body Brush, Curry Comb, Dandy Brush, Hoof Pick, and last but not least a Wisp. You must also give your syce a couple of cloths, which you must see he keeps clean. These are for cleaning out his eyes, nose, ears, and his dock, and if you have a Gelding or a Stallion in your stable, then you must teach your syce the importance of cleaning out his sheath, as if this is not looked to, you will find a lot of dirt collects there, and before you know where you are, you will have maggots formed. The cloth should be dipped in clean water first, and then rinsed out; It is just the same as you're liking a wash in the morning before going to Muster. It bucks you up, and so it does your horse. After your syce has finished grooming, just go and rub your hands over his coat, the reverse way to which it lies, and if he's not done his job properly, your fingers will come out all white, and powdery looking. If he's a man who's been doing syce's work for a number of years, you may find the horse's head, neck, and back

quite clean, but then run your fingers under his throat, behind his elbows, and between his thighs, when you'll more than likely find dirt. Whilst you are up in the stable, have a look at the lenght of his feet ; they should not be more than four inches long, down the front of the hoof, if they are, it means that a month, or longer, has elapsed since he was last shod, so have it done again.

By the way, don't forget that your Curry Comb must NEVER be used on the horse's body ; it is simply for the cleaning of your Body Brush after he's used it well on the horse. Some syces will make a great show of grooming when Master's standing by, by giving two brushes on the horse, and then pretending violently to clean the brush on the curry comb ; all he's really doing, is to wear out your body brush very unnecessarily. Let him brush well for five minutes or so, and then just give the brush a rub over the comb. The dirt removed from the body should not be allowed to be put on the stable floor, but make him clean his brush outside.

In the month of October, you will find your horse's coat getting very long, so as the days are warming up then, it is best to have him clipped out. You will find that he will immediately start to improve in condition, and this is only natural, as if you make a horse work

in the hot sun, with a long coat on, it naturally takes it out of him more than if he's got it off.

Whenever you are thinking about your horse, and the best thing to do for him, just say to yourself; what would I prefer in a similiar case, and if you do that, you'll not be far wrong; for instance, during the Monsoon Months, when it is very cold and wet, you are quite ready to go round the work in a coat, and do not find it too hot, so you say to youself, as I like a coat these days, my old Gee will like one too, so though it may be on the long side you DON'T cut it.

STABLE VENTILATION.

This is the next point I want to speak about; some people seem to think that the correct thing to do, is to put on a heavy jhool at night, and then shut up all the doors and windows. A horse to keep healthy MUST have fresh air, I do not mean by this that he should be left in a draught, far from it, but unless a full supply of pure air is not always available, the horse is not half so able to perform hard work, as the one who gets it. He will also be much more likely to get sick, than the horse who gets plenty of it. The horse who lives in a stuffy, ill-ventilated stable, may look fatter and sleeker than the one who lives in a cool fresh one, BUT the latter will resist illness much better than the former.

Let me hark back for a moment to *Grooming*; I forgot to mention that hand rubbing is an excellent form of massage. The hands are slapped down smartly on the coat, one after the other, and the weight of the body is leant upon them, and the forearms, whilst both are moved over the skin with firm pressure. If your syce has a bucket of water standing by, and every now and then, wets his hands, and then gets on to the job, GOOD AND PROPER, you will find a lot of his loose coat will come away, and any dirt, that was not removed with the brush.

Picking out of the feet should be done at least three times a day, and when you come in from exercise. Your hoof pick should be a strong BLUNT iron spike, and when using it do not let your syce force it down the side or cleft of the frog with more force than necessary to remove the dirt. It is a good thing to every now and then wash your grooming brushes; don't put them in boiling water or you will ruin them. Scrub the backs with soap and water till free from grease, and the bristles should be dipped in hot strong soda water, and then dipped in strong brine, after that stand them with bristles down till dry.

Every day after grooming is finished, and whilst Master is out on his Gee, the syce should be made

to wash the stable down thoroughly with Potassium Permanganate, mixed in warm water ; this will keep your stable sweet and clean, and will to a large extent keep flies from collecting there.

Every day after his mid-day feed, make your syce put some bedding down in your horse's loose box, this is not done for him to lie down on so much as to make it easier for him to pass urine. A horse standing on a hard bare floor, will often retain his urine, rather than pass it, as he hates the splash on his legs, and as retaining it may set up "Colic," it is far better to make him comfortable. In wet weather, or on days you know you will not be able to take him out, leave some bedding down all day, but see it is clean, and that as the horse passes dung it is removed at once.

When you go up to your stable to see your old Gee, make a point of looking at his feet to see they are clean, for if your syce knows that that is a little fad of yours, after a few days they always will be, and it's going to save you a lot of trouble afterwards.

Do not let your syce throw old litter, and dung in a heap near your stable, but take them to some considerable distance away, for they will breed flies, and flies besides annoying your horse, breed germs, amongst others the deadly disease called "SURRA."

FEEDING.

Now let's get on to what to give your horse for grub. It all depends on the amount of work he is doing, as to the amount he will require, but taking the average Tote animal, who does not get an excessive amount to do, a ration of nine pounds a day is ample, that is of grain, but of course he will require his grass on top of that.

If he's in regular hard work, then you will have to increase it up to twelve or thirteen pounds a day grain ration.

The nine pounds a day should be distributed as follows:

Morning feed, 2 lbs. Boiled Gram, 1 lb. Wheat Bran, 1 table spoon Salt.

Mid-day feed, 2 lbs. Crushed Oats, or Barley, 1 lb. wheat Bran, and Salt.

Evening feed, same as morning.

Grass: Two large sacks of grass for the night, but see the sacks are full, one large sack of grass for the day.

When you go up to the stable in the morning see how much grass is left over from the evening before, if there's a lot then you know that your grass-cut is bringing

in bad stuff, so get on to him, as a horse must have a large amount of green grass beside his grain ration to keep him fit. If you perfer to give your horse no gram, but only Oats and bran, then once a week you should give him a Hot Bran Mash, otherwise you will find he gets constipation, from having too much Dry Food. To make a Bran Mash, take 2½ to 3 lbs. of Bran in a bucket, and pour over it, slowly, enough Boiling water to wet it thoroughly, stirring it all the time. Then cover the bucket over with a blanket for half an hour or so, and give to the horse when it's cool enough for him to eat it. Don't forget to add salt, as plain bran without it is very unappetising, and more than likely your horse would not eat it.

WATERING.

According to the temperature, and the amount of work a horse has to do, he will require anything from five to fifteen gallons a day, an average quantity being eight. Remember that if your Butler serves you up dirty looking drinking water, you are after his blood, so as you don't like it, don't let your syce give your horse any thing but fresh, pure water, free from taste, smell or colour. Water should be offered to the horse in the morning, midday, and evening; if he does not take any before his food, then don't let your syce give him any until One Hour after he's finished his meal. But see he gets it then.

If you take your horse out directly after breakfast, and during the course of the morning happen to come near some nice clear running water, get off, slacken your girth, and give him a chance of a drink. If he takes a real long drink, then remember that for the next ten to fifteen minutes you must not take him out of a walk, as if you do he may get Colic.

BEDDING.

See that your horse is well bedded down every evening. You should keep a good supply of bedding in your stable. It should be Dry, as if it is put down under him in a wet condition, you will soon have a sick horse on your hands. Bracken or long coarse grass will make excellent bedding, and when your syce beds down at night, see he spreads it nice and thick. Always remembering that Master likes a comfy bed, so like Master, like Horse.

Each morning, when the bedding is removed from the stall, if it is a fine day, have it spread out on the ground in front of your stable to dry, but remove all dung from it, and any nasty black wet and sodden pieces, these pieces should be thrown away at once.

EXERCISE.

On days you do not take your horse out Riding, see

that your syce takes him for a walk. To make sure he goes a good distance it is a wise move to give him a letter to deliver at somebody's Bungalow and bring an answer back. But exercise he must have daily. Now let's pass on to a few of the *Minor Ailments* of the Horse, which you may bump up against some time or other, and the best way to treat with them in the absence of a Vet.

MINOR AILMENTS.

Colic. Or to put it in plain language "Gripes", when it occurs within an hour or so of feeding, may be caused from having given the horse gram which was not properly cooked (it should be real soft), or you've not cleaned his gram before boiling, or your syce has given your horse a large feed, and then given him water too quickly afterwards.

Anyway, your poor animal is in great pain, and shows it by attempting to bite his flanks, unable to keep still, lying down and rolling at the same time turning his head constantly towards his flanks, and it's very evident you must do something quickly, or you may have a corpse in your stable. The Cure is in most Planter's Bungalows, and consists in grabbing a Bottle of Beer, slightly warming it, and then slowly pouring it down his throat. Put a head collar on, and throw the rope of same over a beam

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MADRAS

or something up high, and draw his head well up, then insert the neck of the bottle in the side of his mouth, and Pour, SLOWLY. See he takes the whole bottle, and when it is finished take him outside the stable, and walk him up and down for about an hour slowly, being careful NOT to let him lie down though he may attempt to do so. At the end of that time, if it is only a case of simple Colic, he should be better, but have him watched for some hours afterwards, when if it re-occurs, take him out again for another spell of walking, and if it does not seem to abate, send off for the nearest Vet, as it more than likely is not a case of simple colic.

Mange. This should never occur if your stable arrangements are well looked after. If however you have taken your horse into some building, in which there has been a case of mange, it's just possible that your horse will catch it, as it is most infectious.

If your horse has a long coat on him at the time, clip him out, being very careful to burn all the coat you cut off, then dress him all over, if possible, with:

Kerosine Oil...........One Pint
Soap.....................One Pound
Water...................One Gallon.

Dissolve the soap in the water, which should be warm, and then add the Kerosine Oil. There are many other dressings, but you can always get this. This treatment should be continued every fourth day, until the mange disappears.

The stable should be well disinfected, both floor and walls, and the latter given a coat of Whitewash afterwards. All Jhools, Grooming Kit etc, should be thoroughly disinfected, so as to prevent the return of the disease. All Bedding should be burnt, and new obtained.

Sore Back. This is caused from one or two things. It may be that your saddle does not fit. If you suspect this, ask someone who knows how to fit a saddle, to look at it and tell you what's wrong. It may be that the sore back is caused through bad saddling up of your horse; for instance, if it is your practice to put a blanket on under the saddle, and that blanket is not lying straight on the horse's back, but has a ruck in it, and you ride your horse with that ruck, it's ten chances to one that on your return there will be a sore backed horse in your stable. One great point to remember is, NEVER mount your horse before you have examined your turn-out for, (a) Saddle in correct position, (The front arch of the saddle should be just behind the point of the withers, but care must be taken to see that it in no way

interferes with the play of the shoulder), (b) Girths are tight, (c) Curb chain not too tight, you should be able to get two fingers between the horse's chin and the chain, (d) Bridle on correctly and all buckles done up.

If you get a Sore Back it may be of two kinds, i. e. Skin Broken, or Skin un-broken. If the former, take a piece of clean cloth and with a little warm water, clean round the wound, afterwards applying Zinc Ointment. If you steadily apply this Ointment for a few days the wound will dry up, but do not attempt to ride the horse again until it has completely healed over, and the horse does not mind your pressing heavily on the place with your hand, because a sore back RE-OPENED takes a very much longer time to get right.

If the skin is not broken, then apply Cold Fomentations, and it will soon harden up again, BUT look for the CAUSE.

The Horse's Foot. Now let's tackle this part of his anatomy. Though it looks as hard as blazes, it is very sensitive really, as the foot is full of nerves, and although the outside horn of the foot is not sensitive, the slightest touch on its surface is felt by the animal. The foot, to put it very generally, is full of Sensitive and In-sensitive parts, for instance, you have the In-sensitive Sole, and

the Sensitive Sole, and so on throughout the foot; Right, now we come down to what I want to get at, *i. e.* If you gallop your horse on a hard Metalled Road, you are asking for trouble. You may say, "but the horse is shod, so why should he feel it"? But I've just told you, that the slightest knock on a horse's foot is felt by him, even when you knock on the horn of the hoof, so imagine what he must be saying about you when you insist on his galloping on a hard metalled road. You are quite likely to set up Laminities, which is an inflammation of the sensitive laminae, or to put it in plainer language, sensitive leaves, and very hard to cure, if a bad case. If you find your horse's hoofs are rather warm, and he is going a bit short, then send him down to the nearest running water you have, and have him stood in it for a couple of hours in the morning and again in the evening, thoroughly drying his legs when he comes in, each time. If you have no running water NEAR BY, then get some sacks, make them up as near as you can into kind of boots, for the horse, not tight fitting, and fill them with Wet Bran, and let him stand in that. It will keep his feet off the hard floor of the stable, and cool them down. His Oats should also be stopped, and feed him only on Gram and Bran, with ofcourse some Salt.

Thrush. This is caused by Bad Stable Management.

It is easily discovered by a strong nasty smell coming from the feet, when picked up to examine, and is caused by Wet and Dirt, or in other words NEGLECT.

Thrush comes in the frog, and is found more often in the hind feet than the front, the cause being, that his hind feet stand much more often in dung and wet bedding than his fore. If you see that your syce cleans out your horse's feet three times a day, and whenever you come in from exercise, and that your stable floor is kept clean, with no foul bits of bedding, or dung, or water lying about, you are not likely to suffer from this disease. If you do get it, then get some Cotton Wool, or Tow, Soak it in Neat Phenyle, or Stockholm Tar, and stick it well into the Cleft of the Frog, and on either side of it, pushing it well in so that it will not fall out.

Bleeding at the Mouth You come in from riding and you notice your horse is bleeding at the corners of the mouth. See if your Bit fits him, it looks as if it were too small, or was it properly adjusted in his mouth, (To be properly adjusted it should be placed above the Tushes, and below the corners of the mouth, so as not to wrinkle them).

If you have found the mouth bleeding at the corners, then wash his mouth out after every feed, with

a clean cloth, and don't bit him up again, till the wound is perfectly healed.

Constipation. Don't forget you must watch for this sort of thing. Do not be content to listen to what your syce says, as they are all priceless liars, but tell him to keep the horse droppings somewhere outside the stable for you to see, if you suspect that there is something wrong. If you find he is constipated, then ask yourself for the reason. It may be due to too much DRY FOOD, or not enough Exercise, or not enough WATER, anyway, if he gets like that, then give him Bran Mashes, plenty of fresh grass, and exercise. Regular work in moderation, and good food and cleanliness throughout, will generally keep a horse perfectly fit.

Cough. If your horse develops a nasty dry cough, send your grass-cut out to cut two or three sacks of BAMBOO LEAVES. Give him these, and his cough will go, as long as you see he's not in a draughty stable.

Diarrhoea. If your horse gets this, put him on DRY BRAN, keep him WARM, and don't give him much work.

Lameness. If you notice him going lame, examine to see which leg it is in, and if you find heat, and

swelling, but no cut skin, then apply Cold Water Bandages to that leg, and if you have running water NEAR BY, and he's not too lame to walk there, send him down, and stand him in it for a couple of hours in the morning and evening. If there is a wound, and swelling, then the biggest thing to remember is Cleanliness. Clean the wound first, with some antiseptic, *i. e.* Lysol, or a weak solution of phenyle, then cover the wound over with a piece of lint, soaked in boric lotion, and apply a clean bandage over the top of it, not too tightly, but so that it won't fall off.

Another way to reduce Swelling, where there is NO wound, is by applying hot fomentations of Epsom Salts, dissolved in water, every two hours.

Blow to the Eye. If your horse's eye suddenly goes a milky white, you can suspect one of two things. If it is not something which you've noticed coming for days, then it is, either he has had a Blow in the eye, or else some small object has got stuck on the front of the eyeball. If it's a blow, that you know he got, by mistake, then bathe the eye with a boric solution, afterwards put a bit of wet Boric Lint over the eye, and keep it in position by a bandage. The great thing is to keep his eye from a strong light, and this the bandage does.

If you find there is some small object on the eyeball, then take a clean piece of cloth, pass it over your finger, and wipe the eyeball firmly, but without applying too much pressure. Don't poke anything into it.

If the horse is weeping copiously, in consequence of this state of his eye, then put a little Sweet Oil below the eye, to prevent the skin from becoming sore from the tears.

Slight Wounds. Caused by Leech Bites, Fly Bites, Poisonous Thorns etc, etc, apply Iodine, after thorough cleansing.

If by any chance a small wound is suddenly found to have maggots in it, owing to a fly having settled on it, Plug it with NEAT PHENYLE, and remove it after a short period, when it will be found that the Phenyle has brought all the maggots to the surface.

Bring your syce up to the principle of always reporting the smallest injury to you, as if you do this you'll find that a "Stitch in time saves the situation", before it gets any worse.

RIDING.

As I said before, never mount your horse without first looking round him to see that your syce has not

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forgotten anything, as it may be your funeral if you do. I once saw a man who was entering for a jumping competition walk up to his horse, mount, and take the first jump, before he realized that his girths had not been tightened up, and he only discovered it then, because his saddle had slipped right back on to his horse's quarters; he threw himself off, just in time, as, the horse, not knowing what had happened, went scatty all over the ground.

To Pick up Your Reins. Turn three quarters right about, take the end of the reins between the forefinger and thumb of the Right Hand, raising the hand above the Withers. Pass the little finger of your left hand between the two reins, on the side on which you are standing, (Near Side), and your third finger of the left hand, on top of those two reins; then your Second Finger in between the two reins on the other side, (OFF SIDE), and your First Finger on the Outside of those two reins. Then, with your RIGHT Hand, draw the reins through your left, until they are a suitable length to prevent the horse moving. Drop the Spare End of the reins on the side away from you, (OFF SIDE), Grasp the horse's neck just in front of the Withers, with the Left Hand, or the hand in which you have the reins, being careful not to lose your

grasp, of the reins ; take the stirrup in the right hand, to steady it place the left toe in the stirrup, toe down, and knee pressed against the saddle, then place the right hand on the back of the saddle. Spring up from your right foot, and swing into the saddle. I hope that's clear, it's very easy to demonstrate, but Not so easy to explain in manuscript. When mounting, make your horse stand still, if you let him career about with you, it shows he's the Master of the situation and not you. When in the saddle, sit up, not with a stiff back, but just in a natural way, the same as you would if you were out to dinner at a lady's bungalow, and remember that NOTHING looks worse than to sit your horse with a Rounded Back.

When in the saddle, and looking down, all you should be able to see of your foot, is just your toe. If you can see more it means that before you can apply your leg to your horse, you've got to bring it back a considerable distance to do so, and in the case of a bad shy on his part, you might find yourself in the drain before you could get your leg on, "to collect him up to it."

Keep your heels down, and your toes pointing straight to your front, and NOT all splayed out, as you see so many people doing. If your toes are pointing to

the front, it means that you have got the correct grip on the horse, i. e., with your thighs. If they are splayed out, you are gripping him with the calf of your leg, which is absolutely wrong. When you've got confidence in your mount, take your feet out of your stirrups every day for about ten minutes, you will find by so doing, your grip will improve and after a bit no matter whether you have your stirrups or not, you'll always retain your grip. So many people take tosses because they will not learn to cultivate that permanent grip, and when they're sitting loose like this, and their horse suddenly takes into his head to play the fool they invariably come off worst, in more than one sense.

THE "AIDS."

To make your horse do what you want.

First and foremost you must COLLECT your horse before you do anything else. By collecting him, I mean, make him bring his hindquarters under him by a pressure of both legs, and take a feeling of both reins so bringing his head slightly in. The pressure of the legs should be given, almost imperceptibly, before the feeling on the reins.

Walk or Trot. Close both legs to the horse, and ease both reins slightly. As soon as the horse goes forward,

at the pace required, relax the pressure of the legs, and feel his mouth with your reins as required to keep him up to his bit.

Right Turn. Apply the left leg, and carry the left hand, which is holding the reins, a little over to the right, so bringing the Near Side Reins up against the horse's neck, when round he'll go.

Left Turn. Right leg applied, and left hand carried slightly over to the left.

Rein Back. Collect the horse, and then feel his mouth as an indication to step backwards. Never keep a continuous pull on the horse's mouth, and lean your body slightly forward. He should, in reining back, move in a straight line, and not be allowed to come back any-old-how, nor must he be allowed to run back. But each step should be made in obedience to the indication you give him. To do this the reins should not be in one hand only, but in both.

To Canter. Collect your horse, turn his head slightly to the left, with the left rein (Near Rein), lean your body slightly back and to the left, and make him break into a canter by a pressure of both legs, but a stronger pressure of the left than the right, when your horse will start off on his "OFF FORE."

To make your horse start off on his "NEAR FORE," just do the reverse, and turn his head slightly to the right, a pressure of both legs, but a stronger pressure of the right than the left.

Whilst Cantering, if your horse is leading with his "Off Fore," by just turning his head slightly to the right, and applying a strong pressure of the right leg, but also keeping your left leg on so as to prevent him swinging his hind quarters round, you can make him change from his "Off Fore" to his "Near Fore" leading.

In case you do not quite follow which is his "OFF FORE," and which is his "NEAR FORE," let me make it quite clear. Stand in front of your horse, facing him, then the side on your right hand is his NEAR SIDE, and that on your left his OFF SIDE. Another way to remember is, in the ordinary course of events, you always mount on his Near Side.

CARE OF SADDLERY.

See your Saddlery is always soft and pliant. It may save you a nasty pip if you do, as leather work allowed to get dry and hard, will break at the very moment you are praying it wont.

The best way to ensure having your kit in trim

condition is to make your syce, once a week, put saddle soap on all your leather work, and see he rubs it well in, afterwards applying ordinary boot polish, and getting a good polish on it. If you make him show it up to you, after he's cleaned it, he'll be afraid to skimp his job. I find that Saturday is a good day for doing this job, but whatever day you select, stick to that day, and you'll not have any trouble with your Saddlery when you really want it to give you a spot of hard work.

Everyday when you come in from work, your syce should rub it over, and your bit should always be spotless.

When you are going round the Tote, and you meet someone you want to speak to, remember that the lightest man is a heavy burden on a horse's back, so get off and give the "Old Thing" a breather. When you get to the job of work you want to see, make your syce slacken his girths, and just slightly lift the saddle on his back. This will ease the continual pressure round the body, and help the circulation.

If you've given your horse a good gallop, and he's hot, don't remove his saddle, and leave his back bare, as he will catch a chill quicker that way than any other. Take your saddle off, if you like, but in place put a folded blanket on just where the saddle was.

The last half mile to Home, should be done slowly, so as to let your horse cool down before reaching his stable.

Now I think that finishes all I have to say, and my one hope is that this little book may prove a help to those who are keen, not only on having a horse, but also on looking after it, when they've got it.

I have heard some people remark that the horse has no power of reasoning, as if he had he'd never let you ride him; Well! I'd like to question that statement. When you get an absolute raw youngster, and try to break him in, he generally gives you quite a busy time of it for the first little bit. BUT when he realises that you are NOT going to hurt him, and that each time he does a thing you are trying to teach him, you reward him with a handful of Oats, then he REASONS it out, that it's worth his while to do what you want, as one way there's Oats if he does, and the other way there's a Whip if he doesn't. No animal knows his own strength granted, and where the deuce should we be if they did, but that's no argument; it's a wise proviso made by the Almighty.

During the last three years, the "Institute of the Horse" has been formed, its object being, amongst other things, to instil into the rising generations the love felt by their predecessors for that most generous of all animals, the Horse, and to teach them what courage and inspiration may be derived from association with him, to encourage all Horse Shows, Sports, and activities connected with the Horse, and to endeavour to obtain representation upon all Government Committees relating to the Horse.

The Annual Subscription is One Guinea, and this includes a quarterly Review, which is full of interest.

In conclusion let me give you a piece of very sound advice, an old Persian Motto, which says, "Never lend your Horse, your Gun, or your wife."

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